



# ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •



402 South Kirkland Drive (River Road) P. O. Box 248, Brusly, Louisiana 70719

**OFFICE:** 225-749-2189

**WEBSITE:** [sjb-brusly.com](http://sjb-brusly.com)

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION:** 225-749-3387

### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil ..... 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday ..... 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.  
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday ..... 8:00 a.m.  
Friday ..... 8:00 a.m., with Adoration until 11:30 a.m.  
First Saturday of the month only ..... 8:00 a.m.

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday ..... 3:30–4:15 p.m.  
Monday, Wednesday thru Friday ..... 7:40 a.m. or by appointment

### PARISH STAFF

Rev. Arun John, IMS ..... Pastor  
Dana Babin ..... Bookkeeper  
Candice Breaux ..... Youth Group Minister  
June Hebert ..... Director of Religious Education  
Sara Hernandez ..... Janitorial  
Jayne Jason ..... Child Protection  
Layne Mire ..... Parish Secretary  
Lil Stutes ..... Mother’s Day Out  
Celeste Veillon ..... Music Director

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.  
Office closed for lunch 12:00–1:00 p.m.

### BAPTISM

Celebrated monthly after the 11:00 am Mass and also celebrated after the 11:00am Mass on the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord and Easter Sunday. Parents should call the office to enroll in our baptismal preparation program, preferably early in pregnancy. Parents are encouraged to register in the parish and actively practice their faith.

### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Inquiries: Please call Carolyn Dupuy, 225-276-6269.

### MARRIAGE

Contact the Pastor at least 6 months prior to proposed wedding date. Preparation program is required. Couples should be actively practicing their faith.

### CARE OF THE SICK

Emergency calls answered as soon as possible. Communion calls to homebound weekly by request. Please notify the office if someone is homebound.

### CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Family should contact the Pastor to begin funeral arrangements.  
For Cemetery information, please call Jerry Deshotel 225-281-0333.

### PRAYER LINE

Please call Carolyn Dupuy, 225-276-6269.



Dear Parishioners,

When I was working as an associate Pastor at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Baton Rouge, we had an additional priest with us at the rectory who was also helping with the celebration of Masses. There were people receiving communion in the hand, and on the tongue. Whenever he celebrated Mass, he refused to give communion to Parishioners who wanted to receive communion on the tongue and were kneeling. He said to one of them, “All of the other people receive communion by standing, and so you should stand up if you want me to give you communion.” That became a controversy in this church parish.

I met a man who told me he had declared war on his pastor because he allowed people to receive communion in the hand standing, rather than on the tongue and kneeling. “They are denying the real presence,” he argued. “If they knew that they are actually receiving Christ, they would kneel to receive Him.” In response, I asked him, “What would you do if Jesus appeared to you today?” “Oh,” he said, “I would immediately fall on my knees.” “Good,” I responded, “There are people who would simply throw themselves on Him out of sheer joy and love for Him. Would you say that such people are irrelevant?” He kept quiet for a moment as he began to see that it was probably less a question of how we receive Jesus in the Eucharist, and more of a question of one’s personal relationship and faith-approach to Jesus.

Today’s Gospel gives us two models of personal relationships to Jesus: one is as a servant, and the other as a friend. And at any given point in our faith-journey, one of these two models is predominant. Either we see our relationship with Jesus mainly in terms of master to servant, or in terms of friend to friend. The traditional lay spirituality in the Church has followed the master-servant model. Jesus is seen more as a master to be feared, respected and obeyed, rather than as a friend to love in intimacy and familiarity. Today’s Gospel challenges us to rethink our relationship with Christ. Because, evidently Christ himself prefers to relate with His disciples on a friend to friend basis, rather than master to servant. Jesus says, “I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but, I have called you friends.” He in fact tells them that He would no longer call them servants.

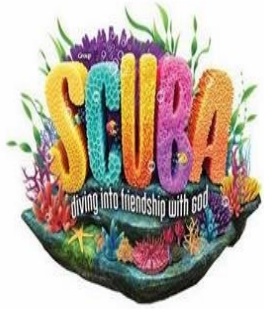
Our relationship with Christ goes through different stages. First it starts off as a master-servant relationship when we are new to the faith; but then as our relationship with Christ deepens, it changes into a less formal friend to friend type of relationship. Why do so many of us still stick to the master-servant way of relating to Christ as if it were the only way? Today’s Gospel is calling us to move beyond the infant stage, the servant-master relationship, and move on to the adult stage, the friend-to-friend way of relating to Christ. This will change the way we pray, and the way we live. We should begin to pray better and to experience more peace and joy in our lives, as people do who are in love. In such relationships, all of the spiritual things we do become a joy for us, and we do them because we love Jesus, and not as a fulfilment of an obligation, or because of the fear of hell, or for some other reason.

One of the objections raised by those who promote the master-servant model in relating to Christ, is that we are unworthy. Sure enough, we are not worthy. Jesus has already taken that into consideration. He reminds us that, “You did not choose Me, but I chose you.” If He decides to choose us in our unworthiness, and to love and accept us as we are, then we should not fix our gaze on ourselves and ask, “Who am I Lord that you should love me?” Rather, we should fix our gaze on Him and ask, “Who are you Lord, that you love me so much?” Just as God showed His love for us by sending His Son to die for us, we have to show our love for God by keeping the ten commandments: love of God and neighbor. By doing this we know we are truly Christ’s friends, for Jesus says, “You are My friends if you do what I command you.” God loves us as we are. God loves us too much to leave us as we are, He wants us to grow up. We love babies as they are, but we want them to grow up. God is like that; He wants us to grow in His love. Pray that we may continue to grow in His love.

God Bless You,  
Fr. John



# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



**Dive into friendship with God!**  
Vacation Bible School  
July 8th through 12th

Registration forms are available  
online and in the Church Office.

VBS Volunteer Meeting will be at  
6:00pm on Wednesday, July 3rd  
in the Activity Center.

**Congratulations to  
the Graduates of  
2024!**

**Best wishes for a  
successful future!**

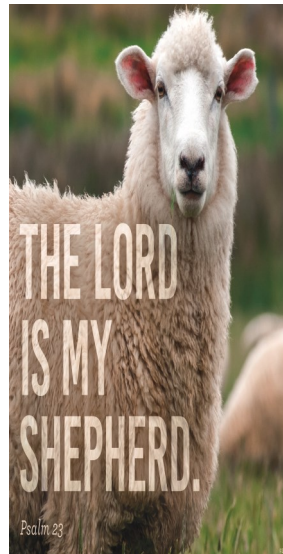


## May Crowning at the Grotto

The May Crowning Ceremony will  
take place on Sunday, May 12th, at  
the Grotto before 9:00am Mass at  
approximately 8:45am.

The Catholic Daughters will host a  
Rosary in honor of Mary following  
the 9:00am Mass, at the Grotto,  
weather permitting.

The St. John the Baptist Women's  
Ministry Group is planning a mission  
called, "Feed His Sheep," to help our  
Parishioners by providing meals when  
a family is having a difficult time, an  
unforeseen dilemma or tragedy, or  
the joy of an addition of a new baby.  
This Women's Group is looking for  
volunteers to help them service  
these needs. If you want to be a  
part of this Ministry, or need more  
information, please contact Danielle  
Peavy, 225-572-3334. This will be  
a most rewarding and appreciated  
service to families in need in our  
Church Community!



# SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please welcome to our faith community these children that  
were recently baptized:

**Henry Joseph Thornton**  
son of Caleb & Kaylen Thornton

**Joey Lynn Juneau**  
daughter of Trace & Briana Juneau

**Avery Nicole Lejeune**  
daughter of Logan & Shana Lejeune

**Oaklynn Dawn Lejeune**  
daughter of Koty & Kyleigh Lejeune

**Hannah Camille Martin**  
daughter of Jude & Cooper Martin

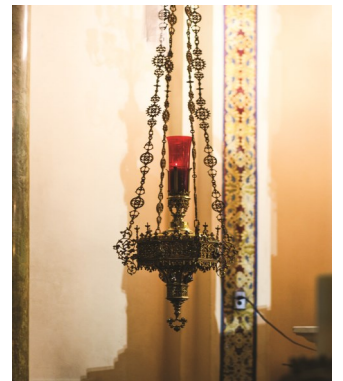
**Hadley Cooper Martin**  
daughter of Jude & Cooper Martin

## Church Membership Directory Drive

Please complete the Membership Directory form found in  
your pew and leave it in the box in the back of Church, or  
drop it through the mail slot located on the back door of the  
Office. You can also find this form on our website. We are  
compiling a Parishioner's Membership Directory with  
updated contact information. All registered parishioners will  
receive a copy of this book. If you are not registered, please  
complete the church parish registration form on our website:  
[sjb-brusly.com](http://sjb-brusly.com)

*The Sanctuary Candle  
burns in memory of  
Louis & Mary Mouch  
and Clint Crochet.*

**Prayers and Sympathy are  
extended to the family of  
Marion Hebert Pearce  
upon her death.**



## Stewardship of Finance

Total Collection for April 28th: \$6,371.00  
Operation Rice Bowl: \$707.78  
Building & Maintenance Fund for April: \$15,116.26

Please consider a donation to the Bishop's Annual Appeal that  
helps families in need throughout our Diocese. Thank You!

*Respond  
TO HIS CALL*



**Pray for Vocations**  
Are you filled with the Holy Spirit  
and want to grow as a priest,  
brother, sister or deacon? If you  
are being called to this vocation,  
please contact your priest or reach  
out to Father Josh Johnson at  
225-336-8778 or email him:  
[jjohnson@diobr.org](mailto:jjohnson@diobr.org)  
or visit: [www.diobr.org/vocations](http://www.diobr.org/vocations)



## 6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

"It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you: love one another."  
- Jn 15:16-17

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. © LPI

### Readings for the week of May 05, 2024

- Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4  
(see 2b)/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17
- Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/  
Jn 15:26—16:4a
- Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/  
Jn 16:5-11
- Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/  
Jn 16:12-15
- Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 16:16-20  
*Ascension:* Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/  
Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/  
Mk 16:15-20
- Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 16:20-23
- Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10/Jn 16:23b-28
- Next Sunday: *Ascension:* Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/  
Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/  
Mk 16:15-20  
*Seventh Sunday of Easter:* Acts 1:15-17, 20a,  
20c-26/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20 (19a)/  
1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 17:11b-19

**IS MOTHER'S DAY  
DIFFICULT FOR YOU?**

**LOSS AND  
LONGING MASS**

A Mass for those who have lost children, lost their mother, who struggle with infertility or who have a difficult relationship with their mother or children or who otherwise struggle with mother's day.

4 pm Saturday May 11  
St. Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church  
18768 Jefferson Hwy.

### Maintenance Committee

**Richard Dugas**  
**Joey Normand**  
**Danny Rabalais**  
**Nat Smith**  
**Gary Tullier**

**Please thank them for their dedication, hard work,  
and accomplishments that your generous  
donations have enabled.**

